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MEXICAN EMIGRATION.

From the Kansas City Journal.

The Republic of Mexico which is slowly but surely undergoing the invasion of rail-roads, presents very few advantages to the settler when compared with the United States. A large portion of the great tract is situated from five to seven thousand feet above sea level with that highly rarefied atmosphere, acknowledged as unfavourable to long life. Almost all the remaining portion is a pestiferous belt lying along the coast where the excessive heat generates all manner of malignant diseases. Very often has Mexico been invaded and occupied by people reared under healthier skies, and very often have they failed to maintain themselves there, in all probability because the effort was too great and the result too small.

There is not a navigable stream in the republic, and scarcely a seaport suitable to maritime purposes. Of her 10,000,000 of people fully three-fourths are Indians in a hopeless state of barbarism and accustomed to live at a mere nominal daily expense. Concerning her present government, it may safely be said, that at no time in her history has it been so encouraging. Within the last four or five years Mexicans have taken upon themselves the privilege of self-government. At the present time the country possesses a constitution which guards the rights of the people as religiously as ours are defended by our own constitution. Pronouncements have ceased and in their place has come a desire for freedom and peace.

While it is true that Mexico offers land at a lower figure than it can be purchased here, possessing no public lands, it can make no grants with its railroads. Those emigrants who are willing to risk much in going so far, find climate and a strange tongue their first disadvantage; they must compete with a class of labor used to existing off less than 16 cents per day and are confronted with that most expensive of all farming necessities—irrigation.

The recent removal of the old fortifications around the city of Vera Cruz may be taken as a certificate of changed aspirations, sentiments and a more advanced civilization, and although, the Mexican government exhibits many elements of stability, we must not lose sight of the fact that the people are almost totally without political education. In promoting and advancing immigration into her midst, this present stability can not be taken as a surety for future safety. It will take a long time to educate the Mexicans as a nation into due respect for the arts and industries of progression.

In receiving our railroads Mexico does so grudgingly and slowly. The railway ventures which would intoxicate many a cool civilized head, have no effect upon the stolid natives.

Although the natural resources of Mexico are great and the soil rich, when we consider that for eight months of the year not a drop of rain falls, we can easily realize that agriculture implies a costly system of irrigation where such a thing is possible. Until the hydrography of the country has been thoroughly studied, nothing can be definitely stated; but it is certain that the scarcity of water is what has left the country so long undeveloped.

Among the inducements offered settlers is the vast mineral wealth, which, granting that its value and extent has not been overestimated, is always a questionable advantage from an emigration standpoint as it attracts many of the rougher classes from other nations who come to prey upon rather than to build up the resources of the country.

There is not a single coal mine as yet opened in Mexico, and although it is stated that abundance may be found along the Texan frontier, there is no better proof of the statement than mere surface evidence. The Vera Cruz road is run by fuel brought from England.

For the last year or two the emigration into Mexico has consisted chiefly of Italians and negroes, who have been brought there by railroad tractors to work upon the road. Their work is completed they will either return home, succumb to the climate or remain a burden on the country.

The Growth of the United States.

The United States signified ninety years ago a federal republic occupying seventeen degrees of latitude along the middle Atlantic coast of North America, stretching westward to the Mississippi from that entire ocean front, except that the St. Lawrence river and the great lakes formed its northern limit. The tract comprised in all about 820,000 square miles. The population in 1790 was about 4.9 inhabitants to the square mile of the territory of to-day. The population of this date was found almost wholly on the Atlantic slope of the Appalachian range. Of the area of the original thirteen states only a little more than one half was to any degree settled, the region beyond this being left to the trapper or ax man. Thirty years later we find a vast accession of territory has taken place. The Mississippi has ceased to be the western limit. The Pacific now beats the shores of the republic for four hundred miles, while the acquisition of Louisiana brings under the flag an area of about two millions of square miles, an extent which at that time nearly equaled that of European Russia. In 1820 agriculture remained the prominent vocation and was pursued with all the old implements save that Eli Whitney had invented his cotton gin. Manufactures were yet in their infancy. The habits of the people were very simple and the wealth still remained in the hands of the many, save in the south, where the bulk of the capital was in great estates.

Mr. Webster, in speaking of Massachusetts, fully exemplifies the terms. He says: "If there is a man in the state who maintains what is called an equipage, has servants in livery, or drives four horses in his coach, I am not acquainted with him."

In 1845 Texas was annexed, which gained for us about 375,000 square miles of Mexican territory. In 1848 we gained 550,000 square miles from the same source. Out of this acquisition we have carved Nevada, California, a part of the state of Colorado, and a part of New Mexico, Utah and Arizona. This brought our area up to 3,000,000 square miles, but increased only slightly our population.

Since 1850 our foreign elements have varied widely. At that time 9.5 percent of the population consisted of foreigners, at this time they are represented by 13.3 percent. To-day the number of foreigners living among us is a little over 6,500,000; the colored race reaching almost the same number.

Throughout the states of the Atlantic coast and in Louisiana and Alabama, females are in excess. In the mining and grazing states and territories more than two-thirds of the population are represented by males. The most marked change in the increase of population since 1850 is the reduction of the marrying class; close restraint being put on reproduction within the married state among the native population of the northeastern part of the country and in the cities of the West. The old fashioned birth rate is kept up mainly by the foreigners in the East, the residents of the Western prairies, and the Southern people generally.

Another prizefight is announced to take place in a few days. These exhibitions have ceased to be tests of skill or science, and are displays of strength, endurance, brutality and awkwardness. They have not the semblance of a redeeming feature. A fight between two bulls would be a far better performance, because bulls have greater strength, courage and endurance, and no less intelligence than the brutes with two legs.

This is an interesting piece of information from the *Pharm-Zeitung*: Place a watch, with the case open but the works in motion, in a vessel so that the watch will be completely covered with benzine. After three hours it will be found that the watch has been thoroughly cleaned. The vessel should be covered with parchment paper, and the watch before it is removed should be slightly agitated. Lastly, the watch is laid in benzine again, but this time a little petroleum oil is added in order to lubricate the machinery.

This may be useful information for the boys hereabouts in the absence of our jeweller, who is now over at Lake Valley. Besides it is said the oreide, arsenic and other corrosive substances from the watch cases neutralizes the poison in the benzine and improves its flavor so that it is afterwards all the better for putting the physical stamina and gripes into a fellow.

Time's Soliloquy.

By Bill Nye.

Old, call you me! Aye, when the corner stone of the universe was laid I was on deck. Before the first circus joke had been shot athwart the morn, I was there. When the morning stars sang together I might have been seen with my new hour-glass and crude mowing machine taking it all in.

Amid the bloom and verdure of paradise I gazed upon the new world radiant with celestial smiles. Ere the foot of man had trod the velvet green of the new earth, and before the range had been fed down like a base ball ground, I was there.

I am the oldest inhabitant. The song of the lark and the twitter of the guinea hen were first heard by me. When Adam opened out for himself and pre-empted the garden of Eden, I was on hand. When Noah rounded up his stock and built his boat, I was there.

I saw Babylon, Assyria, Palmyra and Cheyenne rise, flourish and bust. Nero, Pontus Pilate and Susan B. Anthony entered upon the great stage of action during my life time. The ruins of Babel and Nineveh were once proud structures. I saw them in their rise and fall. I control the fate of empires and ward caucuses. I give them their glory and splendor and then bust them in the snoot. Sooner or later I gather them in with my lawn mower and plant them in the sweet remotely. I spread silken tresses on the brow of beauty and polish the dome of the man on the front seat of the "Black Crook." I paint the flush of beauty on the cheek of the school ma'am and encourage the sickly fuzz on the upper lip of the bilious masher.

I mature the giant oak that grows for centuries as well as the cucumber that matures in two weeks. I pile up the salary of the newspaper nabob, and accumulate interest on the 24 per cent. note.

I bring around the fall elections and the silver wedding with its dollar store castors and seventy-five cent butter dishes. I plant the false teeth in the mouth of the venerable and scatter sciatica and sadness wherever I go. Young or beautiful, or old and wheezy, I put the kibosh on them all.

The Chicago *Inter-Ocean* makes the following hit: "It is all right enough to hold political meetings and make addresses to stir up the people, but the nonsense of state and national committees loading down the mails with documents is apparent to every man. This was good enough twenty years ago, but the times have changed. National, state and county committees should make use of the press to do this work. A live newspaper does more good in a single week in a congressional district than any dozen car loads of documents, not one in ten of which is ever read."

A ten-year old Nebraska boy suicided recently, his mind having become unhinged from an excess of trashy literature. Suicide among children is becoming frequent, and the less care taken of their reading will continue to swell the total.

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